

AMAA news



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History in the Making

Andrew Torigian



July marked the end of another fiscal year for the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and it has been an historical one. With the abundant outpouring of God's blessings upon the AMAA and with the continued contributions of our faithful members,

friends and supporters to our *Together, We Can Build Miracles* capital campaign, we have been able to build for the first time in the city of Yerevan, Armenia a beautiful sanctuary for our Armenian Evangelical Church of Yerevan. The church has been functioning many years in various rental locations and now it has a beautiful home, where our Armenian brothers and sisters can come and worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It also has facilities for Sunday Schools, for Christian Education studies, for Bible studies, for choir rehearsals and is located on one of the main streets in Yerevan in the former US Embassy's location. We also praise God for He has allowed us to move into our new seminary facilities in a building of its own at the same location, where this year 12 students graduated.

1 Corinthians 3:10-11 says: "By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Through all this excitement about new buildings, we realize it is important that we maintain our main focus: Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is not about the buildings themselves, but about what they provide for us. They are important tools in our hands to accomplish the purposes of God for AMAA. It is one of many important tools we need to really make a difference in a hurting world. We thank God for a tool as important as this that He has so graciously placed into our hands for such a time as this. This is truly history in the making in Armenia for the Kingdom of God.

The AMAA now serves in 23 countries throughout the world. For this we give our heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who are serving on various committees that raise funds to enable us to continue our Christian work.

Special thanks to the chairperson and hard-working members of our Orphan and Child Care Committee for their marvelous efforts in sponsoring successful functions for our neediest of children in Armenia. Thanks also to our Armenian Children's Milk Fund Committee whose accomplishments are truly life saving, and to our Summer Camp Committee who help clothe and bring joy to the fortunate Armenian children attending our camps. (The number is now 8,000 children in Armenia and Karabagh). □



The AMAA interns at the newly renovated Evangelical Church of Armenia in Ijevan

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Cover Photo:

Interns with the ECA youth group in Yerevan, Armenia

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AMAA Interns and Armenia: Working Together

Nothing is more fulfilling than to witness young Armenian men and women travel to Armenia and work together.

Twenty-two such men and women from different areas of the United States did so this year through the AMAA Summer Internship Program. They volunteered their time and talent and went to Armenia to serve and renew their connection to their roots. The program was organized by the AMAA Internship Committee, chaired by Mr. Vahram Aynilian representing the AMAA Board. Months ahead of the scheduled trip the committee worked hard to put in place a relevant program to benefit both the interns and the homeland. Announcement was made to the public through the churches and the AMAA News. Twenty-two youth ages 18 and above applied from Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York and New Jersey.

On June 28, the interns traveled to New Jersey and were treated for dinner by the Aynilians at their home in Alpine. The following day they spent a day at the AMAA Headquarters. They were introduced to the work carried on from AMAA Headquarters and were given an overview of the plan in Armenia: Spent a few days in Yerevan for a crash course on Armenia's history, spiritual life in Armenia, and AMAA and its activities in Armenia and around the world. Then travel to Ijevan, a city in the north, to serve.

The group left for Armenia on June 30. They arrived in Yerevan and were housed at the newly renovated headquarters on Baghramian Street. Accommodations in Armenia were very modest as some had to use their sleeping bags. The interns did not mind

and were even more excited about the work. They had paid for their own travel. AMAA was responsible for the accommodations. In Yerevan, the interns had four lectures with speakers from Yerevan, Vanatzor and the U.S. as follows: Professor Kegham Hagopian, Armenia's history; Rev. Samuel Kirakosyan, Pastor of the Church in Vanatzor, spiritual life in Armenia; Rev. Rene Leonian, AMAA representative, on AMAA mission programs in Armenia; and Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., AMAA Vice President, AMAA general ministries and her experience with the AMAA as a young professional.

There was no time to waste. In the afternoons, the interns had an opportunity to visit major historical sites including Echmiadzin, Khor Virab, Garni, Geghant and Lake Sevan. Most touching was the visit to the genocide memorial monument in Dzidzernagapert, where the interns remembered the darkest side of human history - a million and a half of their ancestors deported and brutally massacred.

On Saturday, July 4, the interns visited Sheen-Shoghig Camp in Hankavan and had a fun time with the 200 children at camp. They ate together, played together, took pictures and forged a connection with their little brothers and sisters.

Saturday evening the group traveled to Ijevan, the destined area of service. The interns put their talents to work with one group involved in a church building renovation project and the others leading a Vacation Bible School.



The Evangelical Church in Ijevan was organized in 1996. Worship was held in a small house. The Pastor is Rev. Albert Paidian who is an ordained minister and who also serves as the Director of the Armenian Evangelical Christian Education Ministries in Armenia and Karabagh. Five years ago, the AMAA purchased a movie theater to be used as the house of worship for the Evangelical Church in Ijevan. The building was old and needed much renovation. With a contribution from the Lucile Paul family of Fresno, the entrance and the lobby were renovated three years ago. The hall inside however needed much improvement. The interns removed the huge movie screen, patched and painted the walls, and expanded the stage. On the second floor, a large activity room was renovated. The walls were patched and painted and new lighting fixtures were installed. In seven days, working together for long hours, they were able to fulfill their tasks. The movie theater is now a church with a huge cross that the interns built and hung over the pulpit.

A group of interns traveled about half an hour each day to help lead a day camp for children in the village of Azadamoud. Azadamoud, near Ijevan, is only five kms from the border with Azerbaijan, and is an area that experienced direct bombing from the Azeri side during the Karabagh war. Seventy children participated in the day camp program, with a full day of activities including Bible stories, singing, arts and crafts, sports and other games. They were also provided lunch.

During their stay in Armenia, the interns participated in two Sunday worship services and two youth activities in Yerevan and Ijevan. AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian, who was in charge of this program, preached on two Sundays. The interns participated with their songs and testimonies.

Along with the Field Director, the group had three other capable leaders – Raffi Kaldjian from Los Angeles, Vicken Keshishian from Philadelphia, and David Shahbazian from Kingston, NY. Raffi was in charge of supervising the interns;

Vicken and David were in charge of the construction. The group worked together harmoniously, serving and interacting with the people in Ijevan.

The interns returned to Yerevan on July 12. They spent two more days in Yerevan before they returned to the United States. The departure was sad, but the excitement and the benefits of working together stayed with them. They served and learned much from their experience. They connected with Armenia and their heritage, they appreciated the hospitality of our people in Armenia, and most of all, shared the love of God. They now will share this unique experience with their friends and relatives, creating more enthusiasm about this program and the important work of the AMAA.

The AMAA Internship Committee will soon meet to plan for next year. More applicants are anticipated for the program. Those who are interested in participating in this unique pilgrimage to our homeland Armenia can contact the AMAA at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ or call 201-265-2607 or visit AMAA's website, AMAA.ORG □

AMAA Intern Keeps Her Promise



In July 2008, when Lorig Kalfayan went to Vanatzor, Armenia as an AMAA intern, she noticed that most children lacked decent shoes. She was moved and made a promise to herself that upon her return she will do her best to keep the children's feet dry and warm.

She kept her promise! Upon her return, she raised \$850 and purchased quite a few dozen of shoes and delivered them herself to Vanatzor in August 2009. The children were excited to see her and receive a pair of new shoes.

We thank Lorig for her great gesture of love. □



Ordinations in Armenia and Karabagh

We are grateful to our Lord for continuing to raise up men of God within the homeland to pastor the churches there. In 2009, four Pastors in Armenia and Karabagh were ordained and installed for our affiliated churches. Pictured are the ordination services of:

1. **Rev. Aram Mgrtchyan**, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Stepanakert, Karabagh.
2. **Rev. Sarkis Ochinyan**, Pastor of Evangelical Church of Armenia (ECA) in Goris, Armenia.
3. **Rev. Kevork Kasparyan**, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Malatia-Sebastia region in Armenia.
4. **Rev. Karnik Tootikyan**, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Dilijan, Armenia.

We offer our heartfelt congratulations and much success in their calling to the Lord's work.

Over many years, the AMAA has endeavored to raise up churches and leaders in Armenia and Karabagh from among the local Armenian population. Now, the local leaders are beginning to take on the majority of the work. This is another example of the fruit of our labors the Lord has blessed us. There are now over 40 churches and fellowships across Armenia. We appreciate your prayers and financial support which is making this all possible. Your sacrifices are leading to success for God's work. □



Armenia Employees Bring Joy to Children in Armenia

The mission of the AMAA always reminds us about devotion to God, Christianity, and the motherland. There is a wide variety of services to be of help to the socially vulnerable population of Armenia.

Nowadays more than 1,200 children are without parental care, spending their unguided childhood in various specialized institutions. The UN Children Foundation's survey shows that 400 of those children are abandoned by their parents and the other 800 have weak and insignificant social and emotional contacts with their families. In other words, these children are either abandoned or one step away from being abandoned. Unfortunately this phenomenon has become a very obvious problem in Armenian society.

The Yerevan Child Care and Protection Boarding School #1 houses some 80 of these vulnerable children whose families are unable or unwilling to care for them. Some of the children are orphans.

On April 1, 2009 a group of AMAA Armenia Yerevan office employees, on their own, visited this boarding school. They raised funds among themselves to reach out and offer several hours of happiness to the children of this boarding school.

In the school auditorium, in Armenia, after words of greeting, the AMAA choir "Yerk Yerkots" offered a mini-concert of spiritual and national songs. The children were especially impressed by the spiritual songs and many of them asked for the lyrics to be able to learn them. Before the second part of the concert, Evangelical Church of Armenia Director of Christian Education, Rev. Albert Paityan, entertained the children with stories and riddles. The second part of the concert consisted of lively national songs to which the children and the employees danced national dances with great excitement and joy.

After the end of the concert, when it was time for dinner, the long queue of children went to the dining hall where a lovely surprise was waiting for them. The AMAA employees served the children pizza. After dinner, the AMAA staff offered the children gifts of stationary and school supplies.

The event concluded with photo opportunities which both the children and

the employees enjoyed.

This visit was a great source of joy for the children of the boarding school. Even more striking was the joy felt by the AMAA employees who once again enjoyed the blessing of reaching out and giving to those less fortunate. It encourages our hearts to see our own employees in Armenia caring enough to sacrifice of themselves to make a difference in children's lives. □



Upcoming Event

AMAA "Children Helping Children" October 29, 2009 at Belmont Country Club, Belmont, MA

The AMAA Orphan and Childcare Committee is pleased to announce that the 14th annual Children Helping Children luncheon will take place this year on Thursday, October 29 at the Belmont Country Club. This popular annual event offers a unique opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of fun, and at the same time, help needy children in Armenia. The Committee extends an open invitation to all who would like to attend.

In addition to the luncheon, this year's event will feature silent and live auctions, as well as a special guest auctioneer. Items to be auctioned include box seats to Red Sox and Patriots games, framed Armenian alphabet, pearl necklace, amethyst ring, and many other exceptional items. Guests will be entertained by a colorful children's costume parade featuring adorable child models. All proceeds from the event are donated to the AMAA Orphan and Child Care Fund.

Founded in 1918, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) is a nonprofit, charitable organization, and one of its missions is to provide services to underprivileged youth through education, relief and mission ministries. AMAA is a nonsectarian Christian organization that renders its services to those in need without discrimination. AMAA operates in 23 countries and often partners with other relief agencies to aid disaster-stricken areas throughout the world. For additional information, visit amaa.org. To purchase a ticket to the event, contact Michele Simourian, 508-785-0569.

AMA-Armenia Employee Reaches Out to the Impoverished

When he began working for the AMAA in Armenia, Samvel Mkhsian was impacted by the amount of charity work and the overwhelming amount of poverty. Samvel is a native Armenian and works for AMA-Armenia in maintenance and as a driver. He began to feel the need to get involved – to help do something for the impoverished. His wife, Hasmik, worked in the region of Abaran as the Director of the Statistical Center which gave them access to information on the socio-economic conditions of the people who lived in the 22 villages in the region. On average, people there had no gas, no water, and no means of subsistence. Families live in half-built homes and children have grossly inadequate clothing and no shoes for them to be able to attend school. Their living conditions are very poor. So, Samvel and his family decided to try and help. Over the past seven years, they have helped over 400 families with school supplies, hygiene supplies, clothes, shoes, and food. They have collaborated with various charitable organizations to obtain humanitarian aid for these people.

Besides providing humanitarian assistance, the family felt it important to bring Christ to the villages. So, they visited every village in the region, staying for several days to teach the people about Christ and His love for them.

Samvel's son Mkrtich studied at the Agrarian University and graduated this year. His daughter Marietta studies at the Pedagogical University. She is studying to be an English teacher.

This is yet another encouraging story of the sacrifices being made by our own employees in Armenia. It is a blessing to see average, ordinary Armenian people doing the extraordinary – rising up and becoming an important part of the solution to the economic and spiritual poverty in Armenia. □



Samvel and Hasmig Mkhsian with their daughter Marietta and son Mkrtich

Spiritual Corner

All That We have

Acts 3:1-10

Dikran Youmshakian

Peter said, "Look at us... I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you..." (Acts 3:6).

At times of tremendous economic challenges, we might not have excess silver or gold to give, but we have something more. Peter and John faced the same challenges. When they heard the lame person asking for alms, they had no financial resources. They were retired fisherman following Christ with no income. They did not have silver or gold, but they had the willingness to give all that they have in the name of Jesus Christ. They had the willingness to act and reach out by faith and meet a specific need. That made a tremendous change in the life of one person and inspired others that witnessed this first recorded miracle of the church.

At times of recession or depression, perhaps it is easier to hide behind our needs and avoid the challenges of sharing our resources with others less fortunate. God however expects the contrary. God wants us to step forward, look straight in the eyes of the needy as Peter and John did, and in Christ's name extend our hand to help.

We might not have gold or silver, but we still have God's love to share. God cares and we should be His ambassadors. That is all that counts. □

AMAA Concludes Another Memorable Camp Season In Armenia and Karabagh

Each summer, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), in cooperation with the Evangelical Church of Armenia (ECA), organizes camp programs during the months of July and August. Thousands of children come to a healthy environment to receive nourishment, play games, participate in sports activities, do arts and crafts, socialize and most importantly learn about and experience the love of God.

The summer camps were held in two locations: AMAA Camp Sheen Shoghik in the Hankavan region of Armenian and AMAA Camp Bedrosian in Shushi, Karabagh. Over 2,000 children and youth participated in six different sessions of

camp. In addition, AMAA also organized 48 day camps in 47 cities and villages throughout Armenia, Karabagh and Georgia. Nearly 4,000 children participated in these day camps.

Prior to the camp sessions, 200 camp leaders attended a four-day training session where they participated in seminars on Bible lessons, arts and crafts, games, worship and first-aid. The camp programs were prepared and administered by the Christian Education Department of the Evangelical Church of Armenia, in consultation with the local churches. The camp coordinators and counselors were selected by the Christian Education Department.

AMAA Summer camp programs are designed to share the love of Jesus with children and youth in very practical ways -- learning, enhancing their talents, socializing, meeting new friends and being nourished in a Christian atmosphere of tender loving care.

Upon arrival to the camp, the children are instructed on the camp rules, and told that they are expected to love and respect one another. The camp day is full of activities. Campers experience the presence of God in personal ways. Many come to camp with little or no knowledge about the Christian faith. The activities, programs and personal relationships give them the opportunity to read the Bible, pray and seek God. Many adolescent boys and girls commit their lives to Christ with tears and a firm determination to let go of sinful habits such as lying, cheating, stealing and gossiping. It is amazing to hear teenage boys testifying of the deep joy they felt upon accepting



Christ as their Savior. In addition, the campers are taught national values through national songs, stories about national heroes and various cultural events. At the end of their camp session, it is difficult for them to leave camp. They prefer to stay on and enjoy all the summer fun the camp has to offer.

Every year, AMAA's Armenia and Summer Camp Committee organizes events in North America to raise funds for these camps. Each year the AMAA spends over \$100,000 to organize summer camps in Armenia and Karabagh, as well as in other countries, such as Bulgaria, France, Georgia, Lebanon, Syria and the United States. The camp sites need constant maintenance and renovation to keep the facilities safe and attractive. Those who want to be part of these vital programs, both through volunteer services or giving from their finances, can contact the AMAA at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652 (tel. 201-265-2607, e-mail: amaa@amaa.org). □



Camp Arevelk Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Camp Arevelk, a summer tradition for many Armenian Evangelical Youth Fellowship (AEYF) Youth is a ministry of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) with the generous support of the AMAA and the AEYF. Camp Arevelk Director, Sylvia Jizmejian and AEUNA Minister to Youth, Rev. Ara Jizmejian oversaw this 10th successful camp season. The camp has seen tremendous growth in its 10-year history. This year Camp was held the week of August 9 to August 15 for boys and girls, ages 10-16. Campers come from all the New England states, as well as New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Montreal, Toronto, Chicago and Detroit.

In the summer of 2000, 17 eager youngsters and six staff enjoyed their first camp experience with tents and outhouses, clustered under a forest of trees and surrounded by acres of land at a nearby Boy Scout camp. A few years

ago, the camp moved to a picturesque facility at the foot of the Catskills in upper New York state. In 2008 and 2009, camp enrollment reached close to capacity with nearly 100 campers and over 25 staff.

This year's camp theme, "Our God is an Awesome God" had special meaning to many involved in the history of the Camp. "This was our theme during our very first year of camp and I thought it would be great to bring it back in honor of our 10th year", explained Sylvia. Campers learned the power of their God and studied in depth God's attributes – God the Father, God the Creator, God the King and more. Rev. Kevin Kasper was the Camp Speaker and Mrs. Margaret Hagopian was the Bible teacher. This year, we had a new nurse, Mary Rose Figueroa who took over from Nurse (and new mother) Talin Barsoumian.

As part of the 10th Anniversary, Dave Shabazian, one of the original

founders of the camp, returned to organize the popular and very delicious Camp Shish Kebob Picnic. The picnic hosts over 200 people including families of the campers, campers, staff and supporters of the camp. In addition, a beautiful Memory Book was presented to Sylvia during the closing ceremony. The Memory Book including photos and memories covering the 10 years of camp. For many youth, Camp represents their first exposure to an Armenian Christian environment and it has a lasting positive impact. Friendships are formed and the youth continue their journey stronger and more resilient in their faith. The Camp Committee is thankful for the dedicated work of our staff, including our gifted group of counselors who sacrifice a week of their summer to minister to our young people.

May the Lord be glorified and our community enriched through this wonderful ministry. □



AMAA Awards Scholarships to Needy and Deserving Students

The Chairman of the AMAA Scholarship Committee, Mr. Robert Hekemian, Jr., recently announced awards totaling \$105,000 in direct scholarship grants to college and university students for the 2009-10 academic year. This year 53 students applied and, upon verification of need and academic qualifications, 51 students were awarded scholarships. In addition, \$15,000 was assigned for qualified university students in Armenia and \$300,000 to various institutions of higher learning, including Haigazian University of Beirut, in Lebanon and California State University in Fresno.

"Words cannot express my appreciation for the support that I receive from AMAA for my studies at Rutgers University," wrote one scholarship recipient. "Hard work has been part of my college life. AMAA's scholarship aid will drive me to do more."

Most students respond likewise as they express their appreciation to the AMAA's Scholarship Program. It helps relieve the financial burden which otherwise makes it difficult for students to focus on their work.

For over 40 years, AMAA has helped thousands of college students with scholarships, thus helping them to prepare for the future. Many past recipients have returned the favor by helping others in need.

To receive a scholarship application package, please send a written request with a return self addressed and stamped envelope to AMAA Scholarship Department, at 31 West Century Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652. To make a contribution to this unique program or to establish a Scholarship Fund, please visit the AMAA's website at amaa.org or contact AMAA at (201) 265-2607. □

AMAA Executive Director and United States Ambassador to Armenia Meet in NYC



AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian and H.E. Marie L. Yovanovitch Ambassador Extraordinaire and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Armenia were able to meet in New York City on her recent trip to America. They discussed items of mutual interest and in particular, the proposed law pending in the Armenia legislature regarding the Freedom of Faith and Religious Organization. □

Ben Harris Shares His Love of Soccer with Children in Armenia



Ben Harris in California playing his favorite game.



Campers in Hankavan with the soccer balls they just received from Ben Harris.

It all started from an idea he got from Costco Magazine. Reading the story of a boy, who collected soccer equipment and distributed to needy children, Ben Harris of Indian Wells, CA, was inspired to do the same. He contacted the US Soccer Association's Passbook Program, made flyers and distributed to all Soccer coaches in Palm Desert, contacted high schools and asked his teammates. He was frustrated first, by getting no real response. However, he persisted and soon his lucky day came. He gathered enough equipment - uniforms, balls, soccer bags - which filled his parents SUV. A friend of his Dad, Mr. Michael Landes, the President of the Eisenhower Hospital Foundation, directed him to send the equipment to Armenia. Mr. Landes had visited a camp in Armenia, where children liked soccer, but lacked proper equipment. In July, about 6 huge boxes were carried to AMAA's Camp Hankavan and were given to the children to enjoy their favorite sport. □

AMAA Buys Property for Armenian Evangelical Church in Brussels



L to R: Rev. Sarkis Pachaian of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Brussels, Rev. Joel Mikaelian, President of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France, Fred Simonian, AMAA Board Member, Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA next to the newly purchased property and building on their right.

In 1989, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) established the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Brussels, Belgium, to meet the spiritual needs of the local Armenians as well as immigrants from Anatolia, Turkey. The fellowship was later organized as a church with the support of the AMAA and was placed under the care of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France (AEUF). Mr. Sarkis Pachaian, a young Christian from Turkey, was identified as a potential leader. He was encouraged to attend a Seminary in order to take charge of the pastoral leadership of the congregation. He graduated in 1991.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Brussels was officially founded on May 28, 1991, and was sponsored by the AMAA and the AEUF. The church did not own a sanctuary. Worship services were held first in homes and later in rented church buildings. As of 1990, Armenians from Armenia emigrated to Belgium, thus opening new doors for ministry. A fellowship for Armenian-speaking immigrants was established. Soon the ministry in Belgium spread to seven areas including Brussels, Liege, Antwerp, Mechelen, Hasselt and also in neighboring countries with large Armenian-immigrant communities. The church strives to spread the good news of the Gospel to Armenians who are in need of the Word of God. In April of 2001, Rev. Sarkis Pachaian was ordained and now is the minister of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Brussels. He has capable assistants and lay leaders who help in the ministry of Belgium. With the expansion of the work in Belgium and areas in Holland and Germany, it was necessary to have a permanent facility in Brussels. For the last two years, both the church and AMAA strived to find an adequate property. We thank God that one such property was identified in Brussels. An old chapel in Brussels was located on Rue Du Heysel, 20, Brussels, Belgium. Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, traveled to Brussels and consummated the purchase of this property in June of 2009. Funding for the purchase was provided by the AMAA.

The building needs renovation and rooms for Sunday School

and youth activities at a cost of over 250,000 Euros. To fund this project, the church has embarked on a special fundraising campaign to the local community and they also appeal to all concerned Christians worldwide. Donations to support the ministry in Belgium will be appreciated and can be channeled through the AMAA. Those who are interested can contact the AMAA office at 201-265-2607.

AMAA Bids Farewell to Ambassador Martirosyan



L to R: AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian, His Eminence Amb. Armen Martirosyan and AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian.

On Monday, July 27, His Eminence Ambassador Armen Martirosyan gave a farewell visit to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). He was received by both the Executive Director Andy Torigian and Field Director Dikran Youmshakian. During his service in New York, Mr. Martirosyan had established a cordial relationship and friendship with AMAA and its representatives.

Mr. Martirosyan was assigned to the honorable post of Permanent Ambassador to the United Nations on June 12, 2003. He carried out his responsibilities faithfully and fervently. Along with his busy schedule at the UN, he always made time for the community and became heavily involved in Armenian community life in the United States. He cooperated with all Armenian organizations and churches. He made himself available to most Armenian functions in the tri-state area, personally attending and thus receiving a special welcome wherever he went. Prior to his assignment to the United Nations, Mr. Martirosyan served Armenia as its Deputy Foreign Minister and as a two-term member of the National Assembly. Mr. Martirosyan is married to Anahit and the couple have two children: Vahan, age 15 and Davit, age 9.

Mr. Martirosyan moved to Germany as he has been assigned to another prestigious post of serving as Armenia's Ambassador in that key country in Europe.

During his farewell visit, Mr. Martirosyan thanked the AMAA for their cordial friendship and for the support AMAA had provided, helping the Embassy secure health care coverage for the staff. AMAA continues to support both embassies on the East Coast assisting in providing health coverage to the staff.

AMAA thanks the Ambassador for his unique service and wishes him God's choicest blessings, as he moves to Germany.

Churches in Iraq Under Attack

We have received communication from Iraq that at least seven Christian churches were recently bombed. Pastor Norek Hovsepian of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Baghdad, Iraq, shared these sad developments and requested that we pray for churches in Iraq. Just a year ago, the entire second floor of the Armenian Evangelical Church was destroyed due to fire caused by military action in the area. There is an alarming fear that hostilities and persecutions might continue and increase against Christian ministries in the coming future.

It is noteworthy that even during such troubling times, churches in Iraq, including the Armenian Evangelical Church, remain committed to the Word and they consider "the suffering of the present not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to the children of God." (Romans 8:18). As a result of their faith and commitment to the preaching of the Gospel, the church continues to experience growth. It is vital for us also to show our Christian solidarity with prayer and support for our brothers and sisters, who are "persecuted but not conquered."

Pastor Norek in his following report courageously states that the church is in danger, but still continues to grow:

Dear Christian Friends:

We pray for you always and we thank the Lord Jesus for your love and support to the Armenian Evangelical Church in Iraq.

1. The church holds four services every week - worship service on Sundays, women's guild on Tuesdays, Bible study on Thursdays and youth service on Fridays. Over 300 worshippers come to church every Sunday.

2. The church has an active Sunday school with over 150 children in attendance. Four teachers teach Armenian language and Bible lessons.

3. The church has a daily radio broadcast in Armenian, through the local Baptist Evangelical radio station broadcasting many hours in Arabic and half hour in Armenian. 15 brothers and sisters from our church volunteer in this program. This is a much appreciated program, effectively spreading the Word.

4. We have six other places or house churches for worship. When believers can not come to church because of lack of security, we go to them and gather in a house church to share the word of God. Average attendance at these worship services is 12. All these services are under the supervision of the church council. The church council consists of six elected people.

5. All churches in Baghdad are subject to attacks. Many churches have armed guards. We can not afford to hire a guard. Lately, over seven churches were bombed but the Lord is the one who protects His people. Despite the lack of security, people are thirsty for God's word. Poverty is common especially within Armenians because of unemployment; economic conditions are bad here.

6. The main difficulty is the lack of electricity. All church services suffer from this problem. We pray for the Lord to provide us with sufficient funding to purchase a new large electric generator sufficient to cover the needs of the Church and Sunday school.

Dear friends, there is a lot to talk about the spreading of God's word in Iraq, especially among Armenians and how God performs miracles every day. God continues to work in His miraculous way. We are happy to report that as of 2006, 114 people had accepted the Lord and joined the church. 16 couples were married.

May the Lord bless you.

Yours prayerfully

Norek Hovsepian, Pastor, Armenian Evangelical Church of Iraq

The AMAA, shares the concern of our brothers and sisters in Iraq, and remains committed to help their ministry at a time when needed most. We ask all concerned Christians to pray not only for the Christian churches in Iraq, but also for peace in Iraq, asking God to intervene in His miraculous way. We also ask for your support through your gifts of love. The Armenian Evangelical Church in Iraq is a unique ministry among Armenians in the area - they urgently need our encouragement. The church is very active but with very limited resources. Any help for this growing ministry will not only be appreciated but it will save lives and will bring hope to the hopeless. Their immediate need is a 100KW electric generator which will provide enough energy to illuminate the building and the Sunday school classes and provide fresh cool air. Temperatures in Baghdad Iraq are normally above 100 degrees during the day.

For immediate assistance for the Iraq church, please send your contribution to the AMAA at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652 or call our office at 201-265-2607. Thank you for caring.

ՍՈՒՐԲ ԹԱՐԳԱՆԱՉՆՅՈՒՆ ՏՕՒՆ ԱՌԻԹՈՎ

ՀՈԳԵՒՈՐ ԱՉՈՒԱԿՆԵՐ ՀԱՅ ԳԻՐԵՐՈՒ ԳԻՏԻՆ ԵՏԻՆ

Վեր. Պարգև Ն. Տարագճեան

Ընդունելով հանդերձ թէ մէկէ աւելի ազգականեր կամ շարժառիթներ կան Ս. Մեսրոպի ջանքերով կատարուած հայ գիրքերու գիտին ետին՝ իմ հաստատ համոզումս այն է թէ Ս. Մեսրոպի անուրանալի եւ գերազանց շարժառիթը հոգեւոր եղած է: Այս կը նշանակէ թէ ազգապահպանման, քաղաքական, եւ մշակութային մտահոգութիւնները լուսանցքային էին՝ գոնէ Ս. Մեսրոպի մտքին ու հոգիին մէջ: Սակայն, նոյնքան ուժեղ կերպով համոզուած եմ որ հայ ազգապահպանման, մշակութային, ու քաղաքական իրագործումները ուղղակի ու բնական հետեւանքները եղան հայ գիրքերու գիտին ու Աստուածաշունչի թարգմանութեան: Գալով Ս. Սահակի պարագային, մենք կրնանք ենթադրել թէ ան ունէր նաեւ եկեղեցական-վարչական մտահոգութիւն: Պարսկական Հայաստանի մէջ տիրապետող եկեղեցին ու կրօնական իշխանութիւնը Ասորական էր: Ասիկա կը քաջալերուէր պարսիկ թագաւորներու կողմէ, որպէսզի հայերը ու հայ եկեղեցին չենթարկուէին յունական եկեղեցիին՝ որ կը տիրապետէր յունական Հայաստանի մէջ: Հայ գրական լեզուի եւ ծէսերու բացակայութեան, եկեղեցական արարողութիւնները կը կատարուէին պարսկահայաստանի մէջ ասորերէն, իսկ յունա-հայաստանի մէջ յունարէն լեզուներով: Այս երկու ազգերու եկեղեցիները առիթէն օգտուելով ոտնձգութիւններ կը կատարէին, որպէսզի հայ կաթողիկոսներն ու եկեղեցիները ասորի կամ յոյն իշխանութեան ենթարկուէին:

Այս թեզը պաշտպանելու համար հարկ եղաւ որ կրկին կարդամ, եւ սերտեմ Ս. Մեսրոպի, Ս. Սահակի, եւ անոնց բոլոր մը աշակերտներուն կեանքը, համոզումները, ինչպէս նաեւ գործունէութիւնները: Ինձի յատկացուած սահմանափակ էջերու մէջ, չեմ կրնար հինգերորդ դարու այս սուրբերուն կեանքին անդրադառնալ առանձնապէս: Ուրեմն պիտի բաւականանամ ներկայացնելով Ս. Մեսրոպի հոգեւոր դիմաստուները՝ առանց ներկայացնելու անոր կենսագրութեան մանրամասնութիւնները:

Ա. Սուրբ Մեսրոպ Մաշտոց: Ս. Մեսրոպի սքանչելի կենսագրութիւնը կը պարտինք իր աշակերտներուն ամենէն կրտսերը եղող Կորիւն Աքանչելիին: Իր «Վարք Սուրբ Մեսրոպայ» պատմագրական հատորը առաջինն է իր տեսակին մէջ՝ որ եղաւ հայ գիրքերու գիտին գրական առաջին պտուղը որ, ըստ կարգ մը մատենագիրներու, գրուած ըլլալու է 443-450 տարիներուն: Իրմէ ետք Մովսէս Խորենացին եւ Ղազար Փարպեցին եւս անդրադարձած

են Մեսրոպի կեանքին, սակայն, ասոնք եւս օգտուած են Կորիւնին այդ գործէն:

ա. Մեսրոպ իբրեւ անկեղծ հաւատացեալ մարդ:

Իր փոքր հասակին, Մեսրոպ դաստիարակուած է Տարոնի Ս. Կարապետ անուանի վանքին մէջ: Ոմանք կը խորհին որ ան աշակերտած է Մեծն Ներսէս Կաթողիկոսին: Հազիւ դեռահաս երիտասարդ, ան յաջողած է թագաւորական պալատէն մուտք գործել ու ծառայել իբրեւ օրէնսգէտ, ու զինուորական բանակի քարտուղար: Սակայն, աշխարհական ըլլալով հանդերձ՝ Մեսրոպին սիրտը գրաւուած է Սուրբ Հոգիէն, եւ ան խտուած է ինքզինք աղօթքի եւ Սուրբ Գիրքի կանոնաւոր սերտողութեան: Երջան մը ետք, անդրադարձած է թէ իր իրական կոչումը հոգեւորական ծառայութիւն է, ու հրաժեշտ տալով բանակի ու պալատի խիստ պատուաբեր պաշտօնին, Կորիւնի բառերով՝ «կը մերկանար սուր կրելու ցանկութենէն, եւ պանծալի խաչն առնելով՝ զամէնը փրկող Խաչեալին ետեւէն կ'երթար»: Իբրեւ ճգնաւոր-վանական Մեսրոպ կ'ենթարկէ ինքզինք ճգնաւորներու յատուկ ամէն գրկանքներու, կը մերժէ ամուսնանալ, կը պառկէ չոր գետնի վրայ, իր մարմինը կը խոցոտէ իբրեւ ապաշխարութեան միջոց, անօթի ու ծարաւ կը թափառի լեռները, քուրձէ հագուստ կը հագնի, ու երկար ժամեր կ'աղօթէ ծնրադիր:

բ. Մեսրոպ իբրեւ աղօթքի մարդ եւ աւետարանիչ: Մեսրոպի հոգիին մէջ աւետարանչական հուրը անհանգիստ կը դարձնէ զինք: Հայաստան մօտ հարիւր-յիսուն տարիներ առաջ, ու Ս. Գրիգոր Լուսաւորիչի ջանքերով՝ ընդունած էր քրիստոնէութիւնը իբրեւ պետական ու ազգային կրօնք, սակայն, քրիստոնէութիւնը հայ ժողովուրդին մէկ կամաւոր ընտրանքը չէր եղած: Մարդիկ թագաւորական հրամանով, մէկ օրէն միւսը մկրտուելով՝ «քրիստոնէայ» դարձած էին: Հակառակ Մեծն Ներսէս Կաթողիկոսի հաստատած վանքերուն եւ դպրոցներուն, Հայաստան աշխարհի մեծ տարածքին վրայ մարդիկ կ'ապրէին հեթանոսական սովորութիւններով: Ի տես այս երեւոյթին Մեսրոպին սիրտը կը մղկտար, ու բարձրաձայն ու լալահառաչ կ'աղօթէր իր ժողովուրդին փրկութեան համար: Աւետարանչական այս կրակը սրտին, Մեսրոպ գնաց իր մեծաւորին, Կաթողիկոս Ս. Սահակին, ու Կորիւնի բառերով, անոնք «սիրայօժար միասին իրարու գալով՝ Աստուծոյ կը դիմէին առաւօները կանուխ՝ մեծ աղօթքով, որպէսզի բոլոր մարդիկը Քրիստոսէ բերուած փրկութեան

(Շարունակութիւնը յաջորդ էջին վրայ)

հասնելին»։ Առանձնական այս աղօթքներէ ետք, անոնք ուրիշ հոգեւորականներ իրենց շուրջը համախմբելով շարունակեցին միասնաբար աղօթել, որպէսզի Աստուած ելք մը ցուցնէր իրենց՝ հայ ժողովուրդը աւետարանելու անոր հասկցած լեզուով։ Գալով իր աւետարանչական տեսիլքին ու գործունէութեան, Մեսրոպ դարձաւ հայ ազգի Պօղոս Առաքեալ մը։ Ես անձամբ չեմ վարանիր առաքեալ կոչելու Մեսրոպը, քանի որ ան գործեց առաքեալի հոգիով, եռանդով, ու նախանձաւորութեամբ։ Ան Քրիստոսի կողմէ առաքուեցաւ Հայաստանի, ու անոր սահմանամերձ երկիրներու ժողովուրդներուն՝ փրկութեան Աւետարանը քարոզելու բոլորին։ Մեծ պատմաբան՝ Լեօ՝ իր «Պատմութիւն Ղարաբաղի Թեմական Հոգեւոր Դպրոցի» հատորին մէջ կը ներբողէ Մեսրոպը՝ կոչելով զայն «Իբրեւ Քրիստոնէութիւնը տարածող, իբրեւ վայրենութեան դէմ կռուող միսիոնար» մը։ Ահա այս առաքելութեան ընթացքին էր որ Ս. Մեսրոպ անդրադարձաւ՝ թէ առանց գիրի ու գրականութեան կարելի պիտի չըլլար Քրիստոսի շահիլ իր ազգակիցներ։

գ. Մեսրոպ իբրեւ մարգարէ։ Հոս պիտի ուզէի որ ըմբռնէինք մարգարէին իրական իմաստը եւ կոչումը։ Մարգարէն ո՛չ բախտագուշակ է, ո՛չ սուրճի գաւաթ կարդացող, եւ ոչ ալ ինքնակոչ պատգամաբեր կամ քարոզիչ։ Մարգարէն Աստուծոյ կը կանչուի որոշ նպատակի մը համար։ Ան Աստուծոյ խօսնակն է եւ կը յայտնաբերէ Աստուծոյ պատգամը, կամքն ու ծրագիրը տուեալ ժամանակի ու տուեալ պայմաններու մէջ։ Մեսրոպ ունեցաւ մարգարէական տեսիլք եւ՝ ներշնչուիմ հայ ժողովուրդին հոգեւոր փրկութեան համար, եւ Սուրբ Հոգիէն թելադրուած հնարեց հայ գիրերը։ Խորենացի պատմահայրին բառերով՝ Մեսրոպ, «տեսնում է ո՛չ երազ քնի մէջ, ո՛չ տեսիլք արթնութեան մէջ, այլ սրտի գործարանում նրա հոգու աշքերին երեւում է աշ ձեռքի թաթ՝ քարի վրայ գրելիս, այնպէս որ քարը գծերի հետքը պահում էր...ու գրերի հանգամանքները նրա մտքում հաւաքուեցին ինչպէս մի ամանում։ Եւ աղօթքից վեր կենալով՝ Մեսրոպ ստեղծեց մեր նշանագիրերը...»։ Մեսրոպ եղաւ օրում մարգարէն՝ Աստուծոյ կամքը ըմբռնելու, այդ կամքին հնազանդելու, ու անոր օգնութեամբ հայերէն գիրեր հնարելու ի խնդիր իր ժողովուրդին հոգեւոր փրկութեան։

դ. Մեսրոպ իբրեւ դաստիարակ ուսուցիչ։ Հայ գիրերը հնարելէ առաջ իսկ, Մեսրոպ պարապեցաւ աւետարանչութիւն եւ ուսուցչութիւն ընելով։ Ընտրեց թուով վաթսուն աշակերտներ, ու զանոնք մղեց աւետարանչական եւ դաստիարակչական աշխատանքի։ Սակայն, Մեսրոպ իրական իմաստով դաստիարակ մը եղաւ երբ դանիւլեան գիրերը փորձի դրաւ՝ հայ տառերու գիտէն առաջ։ Կաթողիկոս Ս. Սահակի քաջալերութեամբ եւ գործակցութեամբ, Մեսրոպ ու իր աշակերտները երկու տարի փորձեցին թարգմանական գործեր կատարելու դանիւլեան այդ գիրերով, սակայն, արդիւնք չունեցան։ Գիրերու գիտէն ետք, սակայն, Մեսրոպ եւ իր աշակերտները յարաճուն թափով լծուեցան աշակերտելու եւ աւետարանելու հայ ժողովուրդի զաւակները։ Այս աշակերտներուն մէջէն ելան թարգմանիչներու երեք ու ապա կրտսեր

սերունդներ, ինչպէս՝ Եզնիկ Կողբացի, Կորիւն Աքանչելի, Մովսէս Խորենացի, ելն։ Մեսրոպի կարող ու անվեհեր առաջնորդութիւնով անոնք դուրս եկան Հայաստանի սահմաններէն, ու աւետարանեցին ու դաստիարակեցին նաեւ Վրաց եւ Աղուանից երկիրներու ժողովուրդները՝ եկեղեցիներ եւ դպրոցներ հաստատելով։

ե. Մեսրոպ իբրեւ թարգմանիչ։ Հայ տառերու գիտէն ետք, Մեսրոպ այս նորահնար տառերով կատարեց իր թարգմանչական առաջին փորձը։ Իմ թեզը՝ թէ հայ տառերու գիտին ետին կեցող մտնոգութիւնը գերազանցապէս հոգեւոր էր՝ կը հաստատուի նաեւ անով որ Ս. Մեսրոպի թարգմանած առաջին տողը ոչ թէ հայ հեթանոսական ասանդութիւններէն էր, հապա Աստուածաշունչի Առակաց Գիրքին Ա. Գլուխէն՝ «Իմաստութեան սկիզբը Տիրոջ վախն է...» տողը։ Անիկա իր թարգմանչական կոչումը գործադրել սկսաւ Աստուածաշունչի թարգմանութիւնով, ու շարունակեց հոգեւոր ու եկեղեցական յորդորներ, աղօթքներ, եւ ծիսական գրութիւններ թարգմանելով ասորերէնէ եւ յունարէնէ։ Անիկա չյուսահատեցաւ երբ դանիւլեան գիրերը ձախողեցան, հապա թափառեցաւ երկրէ երկիր, ու Աստուածային ուղղակի միջամտութիւնով հնարեց հայերէն տառեր, որպէսզի Աստուածաշունչը իր ժողովուրդին հասկցած լեզուով մատուցանէ իր հայրենակիցներուն։ Այսպէս, Մեսրոպ եւ Ս. Սահակ իրենց մէջ բաժնեցին ամբողջ Աստուածաշունչը՝ թարգմանելով Հին Կտակարանը նախ Ասորերէն «Պեշիթօ» թարգմանութենէն, ու Նոր Կտակարանը՝ Յունարէնէ։ Սակայն, Հին Կտակարանի այդ թարգմանութիւնը չհամեմատուի, մեր այս շնորհընկալ զոյգ թարգմանիչները՝ իրենց աշակերտներուն օգնութեամբ, վերստին թարգմանեցին զայն՝ բայց այս անգամ Յունարէն Եօթանասունից թարգմանութենէն՝ որ կատարուած էր Ալեքսանտրիոյ մէջ Ն.Ք. 280-130 թուականներուն՝ հրեայ մտաւորականներու կողմէ։ Ամբողջ Աստուածաշունչի թարգմանութիւնը՝ քանի մը վերանայ ումներէ եւ սրբագրութիւններէ ետք՝ արժանացաւ «Թագուհի Թարգմանութեանց» կոչումին Ֆրանսացի մտաւորական Լաքրոզի կողմէ 18-րդ դարու սկիզբը։ Վեր. Լեւոն Արփի՝ հեղինակը Էիստորն ոհ Արմընիան Չերիստիանիտն (Պատմութիւն Հայ Քրիստոնէութեան) քանի մը էջերու մէջ կը բաղդատէ մեր «Թագուհի Թարգմանութեանց»ը ներկայիս հրապարակի վրայ գտնուող Անգլերէն Սուրբ Գիրքերու հետ, եւ կուգայ այն եզրակացութեան թէ մեր Հայերէն Աստուածաշունչը իր թարգմանութիւնով աւելի ընտիր է եւ աւելի լաւ կը ցոլացնէ Եբրայական եւ Յունական բնագիրներու իմաստաբանութիւնը։

Եզրակացութիւն.- Կ'ուզե՞մք իսկապէս յարգել մեր սուրբ թարգմանիչներու յիշատակը։ Կարդա՛նք անոնց ոսկեղնիկ լեզուով կատարած թարգմանութիւնը, այսինքն, Թագուհի Թարգմանութեանց պատիւին արժանացած հայ Աստուածաշունչը։ Բայց մանաւա՛նդ լրջօրէն անդրադառնանք մեր թարգմանիչներուն մեզի թողած հոգեւոր ասանդին, ու փնտռելով գտնենք մեր հոգեւոր փրկութիւնը՝ իրացնելով Ս. Մեսրոպի թարգմանած Ս. Գրային առաջին համարը - «Իմաստութեան սկիզբը Տիրոջ վախն է...»։ Տէրը օրհնէ մեզ բոլորս, ու մեր ազգը համայն։ Ամեն։ □

OBITUARIES

Haik Minakian

Haig Minakian was born in Kershehir, Turkey. As a survivor of the Armenian Genocide he never knew his father Parounak who was taken by the Turks. Their home was set on fire and his mother Haiguhi Djerjerian escaped with the rest of the family to Alexandria, Egypt. His great uncle Mardiros Keshishian, the patriarch of the family, raised all the orphan family members. During World War II, the family moved to Cairo. Mardiros established "Maison Mario" a very well known and respected business in Alexandria and Cairo. Haig worked there all of his adult life with his uncle Krikor Djerjerian, cousin Manoug Keshishian and brother Hampar Minakian.

In 1956, he married Angele Semsarian at St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church in Cairo. He was blessed with a daughter Sona and son Parounak. He wanted his children to learn about their Armenian heritage, culture and religion. He sent them to Kalousdian School and

Sunday School. He was very proud that his daughter is a pharmacist and his son is a dentist.

He spoke seven languages. He enjoyed swimming and dancing. He played tennis and billiard. He traveled frequently to Europe, Australia and the United States.

He was kind and gentle. Despite all the hardship during the Armenian Genocide he never complained or argued. He always respected the family elders and their decisions.

He passed away on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at the Italian Hospital in Cairo after a short illness. The funeral service was held the same day at the Armenian Cemetery in Heliopolis. He was laid to rest at the family mausoleum with his grandmother Marie, great uncle Mardiros, uncle Krikor, aunt Magdalena, and mother Haiguhi.

And behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. Revelations 22:12.

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA NEWS.

*** Alyce Demirjian**

Fresno, CA

Grace Haig

East Elmhurst, NY

*** Shirley Kabakjian**

Lima, PA

*** Zareh Kalfayan**

Brussels Belgium

*** Adrina Kayaian**

Fresh Meadow, NY

Marine Paityan

Ijevan, Armenia

Eliz Sarmazian

Kessab, Syria

Michael Serian

Panama City, FL

*** Silva Yacoubian**

Bronx, NY

** Memorials designated for AMAA*

OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 90th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Ninetieth Annual Meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., at the Crowne Plaza, 801 Greenwich Ave, Warwick, RI. The Annual meeting this year is hosted by the Euphrates Armenian Evangelical Church of Providence, RI. All members of the AMAA are invited to attend the meeting to:

- I. Consider and approve the reports of the Officers, Committees, Chapters, and Affiliated boards of the Association for fiscal 2008-2009;
- II. Review the financial reports for fiscal 2008-2009;
- III. Announce the names of the newly elected Board members to replace those whose terms have expired;
- IV. Elect four members to the Nominating Committee;
- V. Elect an Auditor;
- VI. Consider and act upon any other business that may legitimately come before the membership.

PROGRAM OF THE 90th ANNUAL MEETING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Friday, October 16 at the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church, Providence, RI

- 9:30 am..... Armenian Evangelical World Council Meeting
 2:00 pm SEMINAR – Investing and Financial Stewardship
 Harold Nahigian and Todd Polyniak, CPA
 7:00 pm..... AMAA Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, October 17 at the Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI

- 9:30 am..... 90th ANNUAL MEETING
 2:00 pm..... AMAA Board of Directors Meeting (Short Session)

Saturday, October 17 at the Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI

- 6:30 pm..... 90th ANNUAL MEETING BANQUET
 Dedicated to the 20th Anniversary of the Armenian Children's Milk Fund

Sunday, October 18 at the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church, Providence, RI

- 11:00 am..... 90th Annual Meeting Worship Service and Installation of AMAA Officers



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AMAA Armenia Summer/Camp Christmas Committee Invites You to Celebrate



Christmas in October

**and provide Christmas Joy Packages
To Children in Armenia and Karabagh**

Each child's package costs \$10.00 and includes celebration and a Christmas gift. Please sponsor as many Christmas packages as you can and mail your donation to the AMAA, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. For further info please call Louisa Janbazian at AMAA at 201.265.2607.

Thank you for your continued Support!



Yes, I would like to provide a blessed Christmas season for orphans and needy children in Armenia and Karabagh.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ for _____ children's Christmas celebration & Joy Packages.

Name: _____

Tel. _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

(Please make tax-deductible checks payable to AMAA - earmarked for Christmas Joy Packages) To make a contribution with a credit/debit card or electronic debit to checking account, please visit AMAA's website at amaa.org or call AMAA at 201.265.2607

"As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matt. 25:40